AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A color correction method for obtaining processed image data by carrying out color correction processing on an image, which is represented by image data obtained by a digital camera, the method comprising the steps of:

setting correction degrees for lightness, chroma and hue of predetermined specific colors before correcting lightness, chroma and hue of the image represented by the image data;

obtaining correction values for lightness, chroma and hue by weighted addition of the correction degrees of the lightness, the chroma and the hue of the specific colors, based on a distance in a uniform color difference space between a center color of each of the specific colors and a color comprising an in the image represented by the image data; and

obtaining the processed image data by correcting lightness, chroma and hue of the image represented by the image data, based on the correction values of the lightness, the chroma and the hue.

2. (Original) A color correction method as defined in Claim 1, wherein the specific colors include a skin color.

3. (Original) A color correction method as defined in Claim 2, wherein the skin color is classified into a plurality of types according to lightness, chroma and/or hue thereof, and included in the specific color.

4. (Original) A color correction method as defined in any one of Claims 1 to 3, further comprising the steps of:

displaying the image represented by the image data;

receiving specification of a desired position in the image displayed on the display means; and

including a color at the specified position in the specific colors.

5. (Currently Amended) A color correction apparatus for obtaining processed image data by carrying out color correction processing on an image, which is represented by image data obtained by a digital camera, the color correction apparatus comprising:

correction degree setting means for setting correction degrees of lightness, chroma and hue of predetermined specific colors before correcting lightness, chroma and hue of the image represented by the image data;

weighted addition means for obtaining correction values for lightness, chroma and hue by carrying out weighted addition of the correction degrees of the lightness, the chroma and the hue of the specific colors, based on a distance in a uniform color difference space between a center color of each of the specific colors and a color comprising an in the image represented by the image data; and

correction means for obtaining the processed image data by correcting lightness, chroma and hue of the image represented by the image data, based on the correction values of the lightness, the chroma and the hue.

6. (Original) A color correction apparatus as defined in Claim 5, wherein the specific colors include a skin color.

7. (Original) A color correction apparatus as defined in Claim 6, wherein the skin color is classified into a plurality of types according to lightness, chroma, and hue thereof, and included in the specific colors.

8. (Original) A color correction apparatus as defined in any one of Claims 5 to 7, further comprising:

display means for displaying the image represented by the image data; and

specification means for specifying a desired position in the image displayed on the display means, whereby

a color at the specified position the image is included in the specific colors.

9. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable recording medium storing a program to cause a computer to execute a color correction method for obtaining processed image data by carrying out color correction processing on an image, which is represented by image data obtained by a digital camera, the program comprising the procedures of:

setting correction degrees for lightness, chroma and hue of predetermined specific colors before correcting lightness, chroma and hue of the image represented by the image data;

obtaining correction values for lightness, chroma and hue by weighted addition of the correction degrees of the lightness, the chroma and the hue of the specific colors, based on a distance in a uniform color difference space between a center

color of each of the specific colors and a color comprising an image represented by the image data; and

obtaining the processed image data by correcting lightness, chroma and hue of the image represented by the image data, based on the correction values of the lightness, the chroma and the hue.

10. (Original) A computer-readable recording medium as defined in Claim 9, wherein the specific colors include a skin color.

11. (Original) A computer-readable recording medium as defined in Claim 10, wherein the skin color is classified into a plurality of types according to lightness, chroma, and/or hue thereof, and included in the specific colors.

12. (Original) A computer-readable recording medium as defined in any one of Claims 9 to 11, the program further comprising the procedures of:

displaying the image represented by the image data on display means; and

receiving specification of a desired position in the image displayed on the display means, whereby

a color at the specified position in the image is included
in the specific colors.